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By:

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Atty Docket No: 407T-896410US

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

**PETER KUSHNER, ROSALIE M. UHT, and
PAUL WEBB,**

Application No.: 09/103,355

Filed: 06/23/1998

For: **METHODS FOR SCREENING
NUCLEAR TRANSCRIPTION FACTORS
FOR THE ABILITY TO MODULATE AN
ESTROGEN RESPONSE**

Examiner: Michael Pak

Art Unit: 1646

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT TO
ACCOMPANY REQUEST FOR
CONTINUED PROSECUTION
APPLICATION (CPA)**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This preliminary amendment accompanies a Request for a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA). The following documents are enclosed herewith:

- 1) A petition to extend the period of response for four months; and
- 2) A Request for a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA).

Please amend the specification and/or claims as follows

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims by substituting the following claims for the corresponding previously pending claims of the same number(s):

B1 Subcl 1. A method of screening a nuclear transcription factor ligand for the ability to modulate estrogen activation at an AP-1 site, said method comprising the steps of:

a) providing a first cell comprising:

an estrogen receptor;

a cognate receptor for said nuclear transcription factor ligand;